

May/June 2010

Special points of interest:

- Consular staff changes
- Warden Zones
- Letter of Attestation
- American Information Center
- Registration info

## Letter from the Consul

As we enter this season of transition, there will be a change of consular staff here in Tana. As many of you know, Melanie Rubenstein, Consular Officer, departed Madagascar in early May for her next assignment as Refugee Coordinator in Baghdad.

Laura Rumpf, Consular Assistant, will also leave Madagascar in June to join her husband in their next assignment in Dakar, Senegal.

Filling in now part-time as Consular Officer is Lydia Hall, until Annette Veler arrives for a six week assignment. We ex-

pect the new permanent Consular Officer, Jane Gamble to arrive in early August.

As always, Hery Ramahefason, Consular Assistant, will continue to provide consular services.

We would like to remind you that, *especially during this period of transition*, you make an appointment for services by going to [antanwarden@state.gov](mailto:antanwarden@state.gov).

Though some walk-in services can be provided in the mornings, it is best to call us ahead of time so that we can ensure that staff will be available to

## Consular Section Hours

Non-immigrant visa interviews:

Monday & Wednesday

7:45—10:45am

Immigrant visa interviews:

Thursday

9am

Non-immigrant visa pass back:

Tuesday & Thursday

4pm

American citizen services:

Monday—Friday

7:45—11:30am

Afternoons by appointment



The mission of the Bureau of Consular Affairs is to protect the lives and interests of American citizens overseas and to strengthen U.S. border security.

## Living in Madagascar: Do you know who your warden is?

The American Consulate in Madagascar has divided The Comoros and Madagascar into “Warden Zones.” We strive to appoint an American living in each zone to act as our warden.

Wardens serve as intermediaries between Americans in-country and the Embassy. They can provide information, help local communities come together, and serve as a local point of contact for Americans who have difficulty getting in touch with the Embassy. Please feel free to contact your warden. Below is a list of wardens and their zones:

### Antananarivo:

- Downtown and central: *Andrew Hinderlee*
- North, including Ivandry: *Taisir Emeish*
- Rest of Antananarivo: *Halima Hiridjee*
- Greater Antananarivo (surrounding region): *Shahbaz Fawbush*

### Comoros: *Jeff O’Loughlin*

**East (Tamatave):** *Kimberly Radford*

**North (Diego/Nosy Be):** *David Hamilton*

**Northwest (Mahajanga):** *Kathryn McElmurry*

**West (Morondava):** *Gary Lemmer*

**South (Tulear):** *Michael Johnson*

**Southeast (Ft. Dauphin):** *Jim Hansen*

We are currently trying to set up wardens for the **Central Region (Fianarantsoa)**. If you or you know of anyone who would like to serve as a warden for this area, please let us know at:

[antanwarden@state.gov](mailto:antanwarden@state.gov)

## Letter of Attestation

If you are moving away from Madagascar and need to have a letter of attestation for customs purposes, the Consular Office can assist you with an affidavit.

The letter states the duration of your residence in the country and your forwarding address. You may write your own letter or we can provide you with a template. Once completed,

bring the letter to the Consular Officer for attestation. You may request this form at: [antanwarden@state.gov](mailto:antanwarden@state.gov). The fee for the affidavit is \$30.

## American Information Center (AIC) *has moved to the new embassy*

The American Information Center (AIC) has moved most of its offices to the new embassy at Point Liberty, Andranomena, Antananarivo.

The AIC is a specialized reference and research facility. Its mission is to provide authoritative, accurate, and up-to-date information about the US and topics that are important to both Madagascar and the US.

The AIC has approximately 900 books, 15 periodical titles, full internet access, and a variety of online resources including electronic journals, government and think tank reports, and CD-ROMs and DVDs.

AIC staff can search the following databases for high-quality search results:  
*ProQuest, Lexis-Nexis, Dow Jones/Factiva, First Search, Books in Print with Reviews, GaleNet, Stat-USA.*

You are welcome to come and read the print resources, consult CD-ROMs and surf the internet. Reference queries may be submitted in person, by telephone, fax or email. (*See contact info*).

The AIC also offers a **Lending Library**.

Please contact the librarians for further information on how to become a member.

The catalog is now online at:

<http://169.252.15.72/InfoCentre/Library.do?library=601>

IRC Blog: <http://ircantananarivo.blogspot.com/>

US Embassy website::

<http://www.antananarivo.usembassy.gov>

### **Free databases you can visit:**

Thomas: Legislative information, bills and congressional hearings: <http://thomas.loc.gov>

GPO Access: All government publications including congressional directory, presidential documents, Supreme Court reports, US code, law and regulations: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov>

### **Public Hours:**

Mon - Thurs 08:30 - 17:00

***(please call first to ensure that the librarians are on-sight)***

261 20 480 00/23 480 01 ext: 2223

033 443 2223

[ramarokof@state.gov](mailto:ramarokof@state.gov) or [andriantjh@state.gov](mailto:andriantjh@state.gov)

## ***Is your registration current?***

We would like to remind you to update your registration to be certain that we have all your current contact information and a Privacy Act Waiver on file. Having the most recent contact info enables us to facilitate communication between you, designated family/friend contacts, and the US Consular Section, should an emergency or crisis occur. You may update this information at: <https://travelregistration.state.gov>

Also, please be sure to notify us when you permanently leave the country so that we can close your registration and cease sending you warden messages.

US Embassy  
Antananarivo,  
Madagascar

Lot 207 A, Point Liberty,  
Andranoro, Antehiroka,  
Antananarivo 105

Phone: 20.23 480 00

Fax: 033 443 2835

antanwarden@state.gov

consantan@state.gov



#### Useful Websites

[Madagascar Country Specific Information](#)

[Comoros Country Specific Information](#)

[General Information About Travel Abroad](#)

[www.antananarivo.usembassy.gov](http://www.antananarivo.usembassy.gov)

Until further notice, there will be no Town Hall meetings. We will continue to issue warden messages so please stay alert to those.

The warden message at the following link still applies to the current situation on crime:

[http://www.antananarivo.usembassy.gov/possible\\_demonstrations\\_increase\\_crime.html](http://www.antananarivo.usembassy.gov/possible_demonstrations_increase_crime.html)

Further information on security and travel in Madagascar and Comoros can be found at:

<http://travel.state.gov>

### **Georgia Voters! - June 8, 2010 Special Runoff Election**

The Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) is available at: [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov). The FWAB must be postmarked no later than **June 8, 2010**, and received by the local election official

no later than June 11, 2010. Send your FWAB to your County Election Official (contact antanwarden@state.gov for address info)